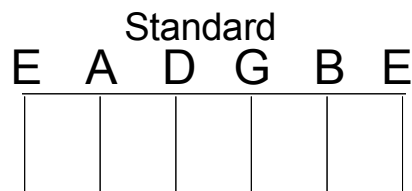
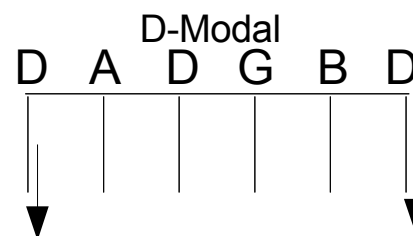


# Open Guitar Tunings

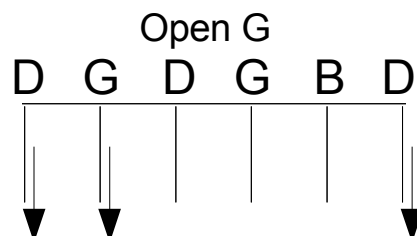
© 2006 by Michael Riversong



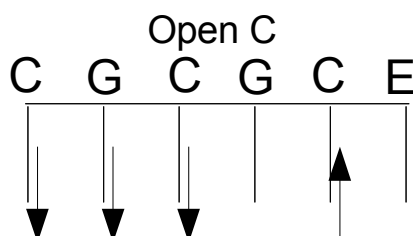
Originally optimized for Flamenco.  
Allows maximum flexibility in most keys.



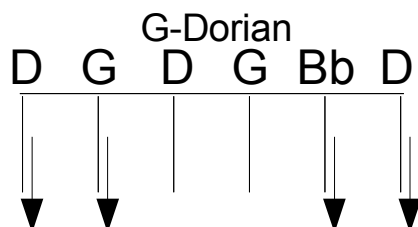
Also known as "Steve Stills" tuning. Not a true open tuning, but has a pretty nice sound.



This is the original "Hawaiian Slat-Key" tuning. It was the first widely used one for steel guitar, and is also used on many banjos. Chords are similar to standard ones in many cases. Ideal for dinner music.



Has a nice "backwoods" sound. Especially good when stealing Native American songs. Used on "Shlanteh", the opening song on "Dreams and Dances". Chords are a little strange sometimes.



This was invented specifically as a memorial for the students at Columbine High. (I used to live near there.) Working with this tuning is essentially learning how to play all over again. It seems to fit well with Heavy Metal music since it sounds grand & intense.

Arrow show the direction you change the pitch of a string.

Many people find it is rewarding and relaxing to use open tunings, and this is especially true for those who are using the guitar therapeutically and don't need to do the "music industry" thing. These are the tunings used on my albums, & there are others.

By listening, you can make quite a bit of progress in this area. "Dreams and Dances", my first album recorded in 1984, is still one of the best resources you could use for learning these. For some fascinating effects, try using a capo. For example, putting one on the first fret while in D-Modal will automatically put you in the key of Eb, which accesses the endocrine system.

Several songs on the free "Motivational Synergy" album use this trick. Enjoy!

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